Incentives for Deep Sea Fishing

1169. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that due to low prices, sufficient quantity of fish are thrown overboard by deep-sea fishing trawlers ;

(b) The incentives Government propose to offer to ensure that this fish is brought to shore ; and

(c) whether such incentives are likely to result in ensuring plentiful fish at cheap rates in urban areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) It is reported that shrimp trawlers discard low value species of fine fish.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Development of Sea Fishing Industry

1170. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to put the deep-sea fishing industry on a healthy footing during 1989-90 ;

(b) the details of problems faced by this industry at present;

(c) whether Government propose to initiate any time bound plans to revive the deep-sea fishing industry; and

(d) if so, by when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) During 1989-90 under Trawler Development Fund Scheme and Fishery Survey of India Rs. 6 crores and Rs. 8·85 crores have been earmarked respectively. Implementation of these schemes will help in acquisition of deep sea fishing vessels by Indian companies and would make available data on fishery resources in deep sea areas to the fishing industry.

(b) to (d) The main difficulties that the deep sea fishing vessel owners have indicated relate to finance, high cost of diesel oil, lack of suitable facilities on fishing harbours, lack of convincing data on resources, procedural problems with regard to acquisition and registration of vessels, delay in getting approval for employment of foreign crew etc. The difficulties are looked into and appropriate action taken from time to time.

Amendment of Maritime Zone Act

1171. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Maritime Zone Act of 1981 to assist small technocrats and entrepreneurs in implementing their letters of intent for charter;

(b) whether any interim measures are likely to be taken to make the policy a success ;

(c) what are the major flaws in this Act which act as an impediment in effective implementation of the letters of intent ;

(d) whether it is a fact that sufficient powers are available with Government to adopt a realistic approach regarding tenure of letter of intent, and source of boats and other such aspects; and